

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Joseph Knox S4480

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Transcribed by Peggy Reece Bruckner, 5/24/2009, spelling and punctuation is as found; within square brackets are transcriber's comments regarding text placement or undecipherable wording.

State of Tennessee, Rutherford County - County Court August Term 1832

On this day personally appeared in open Court before Henry Trott, James C Mitchell and Varner D. Cowen Esquires presiding members of the Court of Quorum for Said County of Rutherford; Joseph Knox a resident of said County of Rutherford and State of Tennessee aged eighty five years who being first duly sworn according to law, doth, on his Oath making the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed 7th June 1832-

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That he entered the service of the United States as a private soldier in the Militia company commanded by Capt James Crawford; and as one of the drafted militia, James [Hebits?] was the Lieut. and served more than twelve months; and he served two full Tours of three months each under Capt Crawford. Independent of the Service above stated he was engaged sometime, more than Two Months in the foraging party procuring Beef Cattle for the Army. The part on this duty was headed or commanded by Capt William McAdoo, having with him besides the declarator, William Wallace, William Gracy _____Ellison and others not now recollected. He cannot recollect the month or year that he entered the service; having lost his discharge, he has no record or document in his possession to aid his memory on this point. During the time that he was in service, he recollects, that Capt George Davidson, John Armstrong, and William Knox, (who were of the regular Army) was on duty at the same time and place with him. He was a Citizen of Rowan County State of North Carolina at the time he entered the service; and the Troops were Commanded by Genl Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford], Hugh Brevard was the Col Commandant; and Col Mathew or Frank Locke [Francis Locke], had a command -- but which is not recollected. He was in no battle; but was in less than a mile of the battle at Cowens Ford [Cowan's Ford, February one, 1781] on the Catawba, where Genl Davidson [William Lee Davidson] was killed. He was drawn up, on one or more occasions, when under the command of Capt James Hall to engage the Tories -- The Tories were headed by one Breant or Brianz [probably Samuel Bryan]. He was with Capt James Crawford on duty in the County of Lincoln North Carolina a few days before the battle of Ramsours Mill [Ramseur's Mill or Ramsour's Mill, June 20, 1780].

[Note in right margin:] * He served under Capt Falls [Gilbreath Falls], who was killed at Ramsours Mill, six or eight months in Rowan and Lincoln County in pursuit of the Tories which was before the battle of Ramsours Mill.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity, except the present, and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State.

Sworn to and subscribed this 22nd day of August in open Court 1832

Joseph (his X mark) Knox

S/J. R. Laughlin, Clk.

And on the same day and year personally appeared in open Court Sitting as afordsaid Samuel Fleming¹ age eight [sic seventy?] five years a Citizen of Rutherford County and makes

¹ [Samuel Fleming S1952](#)

oath, that he knew Joseph Knox in the County of Rowan State of North Carolina, during the war of the revolution -- Knox was attached to the militia corps commanded by Capt James Crawford -- Col Brevard was the commanding Col; and affiant knowing that said Knox was at one period under the command of Capt Hall in the county of Lincoln, State N. Carolina -- Knox served with Capt Crawford two full tours, and the other service under Capt Hall and others made more than twelve months, he was in actual service. Affiant is ten or eleven years younger than Knox; but he well recollect the Battle at Cowens Ford on the Catawba, at which Genl Davidson was killed, tho he was not in the engagement; being a short distance up the River at the time the engagement took place --

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid
S/Samuel Fleming



S/J. R. Laughlin, Clk.

We [LINED THROUGH is "Jesse Alexander, a clergyman" and written above is "Henry Tigt"?] residing in the neighbourhood of Joseph Knox, whose name is subscribed within, and John Witherspoon, Justice of the Peace, living in the same neighbourhood, hereby certify that we are well acquainted with said Knox, who has sworn to and subscribed to the within declaration; that we believe him to be eighty five years of age; that he is reputed and believed and believed [sic] in the neighbourhood where he residing, to have been a soldier of the revolution; and we concur that opinion-- and we further certify that we personally know Samuel Fleming, whose name is above subscribed, and that he is a man of truth and veracity, who is also believed to be a soldier of the Revolution, by all persons who know him.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid
S/Hr. Trott
S/ John Witherspoon
S/J R. Laughlin, Clk.

Interrogatories propounded by the Court to the applicant Joseph Knox

Question 1: Where and in what year were you born?

Answer: He was born at Lancaster County, Pennsylvania -- he is eighty five or eighty six years of age -- but what year he was born he knows not

Question 2: Have you any record of your age; and if so where is it?

Answer: I have no record of my age --

Question 3: Where were you living when called into service; where have you lived since the Revolutionary war; and where do you now live?

Answer: Rowan County North Carolina and I lived in Iredell County some years afterwards, and then moved to Tennessee Rutherford County where I now live

Question 4: How were you called into service; were you drafted, did you volunteer, or were you a substitute? And if a substitute, for whom?

Answer: Drafted

Question 5: State the names of some of the regular troops and officers with them when you served, such continental and Militia regiments as you can recollect, and the general circumstances of your service?

Answer: Genl Davidson, Capt George Davidson, William Knox, John Armstrong -- I do not recollect any continental or Militia Regiments on duty while I was in service. I was drafted and placed in the company of Capt James Crawford and served eight months under Capt Falls -- in pursuit of the Tories in Rowan & Lincoln County North Carolina.

Question 6: Did you ever receive a discharge from the service; and if so by whom was it given, and what has become of it?

Answer: I think I received a discharge but have lost them

Question 7: State the names of persons to whom you are known to your present neighbourhood; and who can testify to your character, your veracity, and their belief of your service as a soldier in the revolution?

Answer: William Doran, Quent [possibly, Jacob?]Wright, David McKnight, James McKnight, Alexander McKnight, Martin McKnight, William McKnight, Enos McKnight, Charles Reedy Syr,[Sr?] , Jesse Alexander

And the said Court do hereby declare their opinions, after the investigation of the matter, and after putting the interrogatories prescribed by the war department, that the above applicant was a revolutionary war soldier, and served as he states. And the Court further certifies, that the said Jesse Alexander who has signed the foregoing certificate, is a clergyman resident in the neighbourhood of said Knox and that John Witherspoon who has also signed the same is a Justice of the Peace in the same neighbourhood in the County of Rutherford and that both are credible persons, and that their statements are entitled to credit -- And we further certify that Samuel Fleming, whose statement upon oath and subscribed by him, whether is a man of truth and full credit should be given him.

Given under our hands, setters as a Court this day and year aforesaid

Jesse Alexander has informed us that he is sick and cannot attend in Court to day

S/ H. Trott

S/J. C. Mitchell

S/ V. D. Cowan

State of Tennessee

Rutherford County

Personally appeared before me, the undersigned, a Justice of the Peace for the County and State aforesaid Joseph Knox, who being duly sworn, deposeth and saith, that, by reason of old age, and the consequent loss of memory, he cannot swear positively as to the present length of his service, but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grades -- Under Captain James Crawford Two Tours of three months each as a private soldier -- He served Two Months under Capt William McAdoo on a Foreaging party as a private soldier -- For six months under Capt Falls in pursuit of Tories in Rowan and Lincoln County North Carolina as a private -- In this service he was on constant duty -- making Fourteen Months, that he was on duty, and for such Service I claim a Pension

S/Joseph Knox

Subscribed and sworn to before
me this 12th day of April 1834
S/John Witherspoon Justice of the Peace

Mrs. Olive P. Harris
53 Prospect Street
Stamford, Connecticut

July 8, 1931
Rev. & 1812 Wars Section
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Dear Madam:

You are advised that it appears from the papers in the Revolutionary War pension claim, S.4480, that Joseph Knox was born in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. The date of his birth and the names of his parents are not given.

While living in Rowan County, North Carolina, he enlisted, date not given, and served at various times on short tours, about fourteen months in all, as a private under Captains James Crawford, William McAdoo, James Hall and Falls and Colonel Hugh Brevard, in the North Carolina Troops. He stated that he was in no battle but was within less than a mile of Cowan's Ford on the Catawba River when General Davidson was killed.

After the Revolution, he resided in Iredell County, North Carolina, and then moved to Rutherford County Tennessee.

He was allowed pension on his application executed August 22, 1832, at which time he was aged about eighty-five years and resided in Rutherford County, Tennessee.

He died August 31, 1836.

There are no data as to his family.

Very truly yours
A. D. Hiller
Assistant to Administrator.